



Volume 25

An ARCEC Monthly Publication

July 2016

Counterpoise Editor - Sue Robins AF6LJ

Field Day 2016

By Sue Robins AF6LJ

Field Day 2016 is now behind us, and while it isn't going to go down in history in terms of contacts fun was had by all. Band conditions played a key role in the low scores many have experienced including the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon club station. While we cannot have control over propagation we can make the most of such an event and our club certainly did

Temperatures were in the mid 80's on set up day when club members met at our storage shed to load up for the big event. Sometime around noon on Friday everything was loaded into trucks SUVs and our utility trailer and we were off for lunch at In & Out. After a wonderful lunch and some good conversation the set up crew headed over to Santee Lakes for set up.



ARCEC Repeater Frequencies

2 Meter Repeater	220 MHZ Repeater	440 MHZ Repeater
TX 146.475	TX 222.480	TX 440.900
RX 147.420	RX 224.080	RX 445.900
Offset .945	Offset 1.6	Offset 5.00
PL 107.2	PL 107.2	PL 107.2



We arrived at Santee Lakes, the Padre Dam Administration office parking lot sometime just after 1:00 PM, and set up began. Shelters, and tables were set up followed by the military mast with a triband yagi and a 6 meter beam. Locations for the galley and the duplexer / triplexer table were established and those arrays were set up. The porta-potties showed up and were ready to after a short time. By the day's end all but the tower trailer and 80/40 inverted V were set up and ready for use.

Saturday morning saw the arrival of the set up crew and work began on getting the main tower and inverted V up. Radios were unpacked and set up. It wasn't long before the drone of the generator took its place in the background noise that was to become the norm for the next 24+ hours. Cal was over setting up the galley in preparation for lunch and the meals to follow.

About an hour before the official start of Field Day we were all set up and ready to go, time for some deserved rest.



Promptly at 11:00 AM Field Day began. We had a couple of computer glitches aside from that everything worked well. While club members were working stations we had a few visitors of the general public kind, Padre Dam provides treated water for residents and others to use for irrigation, and Saturday was one of those days. A couple of those folk wondered over to see what was going on and ARCEC members gladly explained what Amateur Radio and Field Day was all about, it was a great opportunity to show off the capabilities and fun of amateur radio. Lunch time came and went and Cal was kept busy serving up hot dogs hamburgers, ham and all the fixins...

After lunch a few club members engaged in changing the tires on the tower trailer. Since the tower trailer would already be off the ground, the Board of Directors had decided that would be the time to replace the aging tires on the tower trailer. Dave and Sue took the wheels over for tire replacement, stopped off at Costco on the way back to pick up a few things.



A few hours later the tires were returned to the tower trailer, the Field day activities were not interrupted. We made quite a few CW contacts this year, not as many digital contacts as years past, considering conditions we did well. We might of had more contacts on the low bands, however one of the switching power supplies being used was noisy causing interference up and down 75 meters. In spite of that issue band conditions were the overriding factor when it came to making contacts, even on the low bands.

Sunday morning began with breakfast, and another visitor or two. Those who worked at night filed out and the day group filed in. During the closing minutes of Field Day the military mast was taken down and non essential gear was packed away. In spite of a couple of mishaps teardown went well. All the gear was returned to the Shed or wherever it needed to be stowed.

When it was all over we made 171 CW contacts, 489 Phone contacts, and 9 Digital contacts for 849 points. Field day was a lot of fun and I know we are all looking forward to Field Day 2017. In closing I want to thank Victoria McNall, KK6MZG for her pictures of the set up and the picture I chose for the newsletter masthead.

Club Picnic

The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon Annual Picnic: will be held at Mary Jane Park in Crest on Saturday, September 10, 2016. The picnic will begin about 10 AM and continue from there. More details coming soon.



Angelo Boccia

February 2, 1936 - May 7, 2016

LA MESA, CA — Angelo Boccia, 80, of La Mesa, California, formerly of Newark, New Jersey and Mola di Bari, Italy, passed away on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at his home surrounded by his loved ones. Born February, 2, 1936 in Mola di Bari, Italy to parents Gaetano Boccia and Franca Consiglio, he was the first of six children. Angelo immigrated to the United States in 1954. He married Carol A. Taylor on September 4, 1965 and lost her to cancer on August 14, 2013. He is survived by his five siblings Guilo, Dominic and Antonio Boccia, Michelina Guadagni and Rosaria Sweet. His three children Gaetano and John Boccia, Frances Doyle and his two grandchildren, John and Jacob Doyle.

He was a man of honor, very humble, quiet and reserved. He was a hard working devoted husband, father and brother. He taught his grandchildren the secret to his favorite recipes from his Italian upbringing. He'll always be remembered for his many passions, whether gardening, morning walks or communicating on his radio. He loved his hobby of ham operator since the early 1960's. Formerly an active member in New Jersey and here in California. A member of



El Cajon Amateur Radio Club and The San Diego Six Shooters with his call letters WB6MNR-WAMO #063, and a member of the Civil Defense. He specialized as a tool and die maker for 45 years. In 2000, he retired at 65 with a few months shy of 25 years from Cubic Corporation. He received a four year degree in tooling from Essex College in New Jersey. With a saddened heart, we say our goodbyes until we meet again...the BEST of 73....signing off WB6MNR.

A Visitation is scheduled for Thursday, May 19, 2016 from 4:00 pm until 8:00 pm at East County Mortuary in El Cajon, California. A funeral Mass will be held at Holy Trinity Church in El Cajon on Friday, May 20, 2016 beginning at noon. Burial will be at El Cajon Cemetery.

Please sign the Guest Book online
obituaries.sandiegouniontribune.com

From the May 17 2016 Union Tribune

SUMMER HAM-BOREE & SWAP-MEET

Greetings,

The dog days of summer are upon us, so to that end we are announcing our SUMMER HAM BOREE & SWAP-MEET 2016. The SUMMER HAM-BOREE will be on Saturday, August 6, 2016. There are representatives from many companies like YAESU, ICOM, COMET-NCG, and POWERWERX scheduled to attend, to name a few. We will have special event pricing on some items, and give-a-ways throughout the day.

We will bring the swap meet back, starting at 8:00 am, in front of the store, setting sellers up along the grassy boulevard along the very front of the parking lot. Sellers will park parallel to the curb, limiting their selling space to the length of their vehicle. Space has always been an issue, and this time is no exception. Sellers are asked to limit themselves to cars/vans and pick-up trucks only. There will not be room for trailers or RV's if we want to accommodate everyone. We are striving to make everyone happy, but sometimes that can be a difficult chore. We certainly would appreciate everyone's compliance with this request. As in the past, there is no cost to sell, but we must limit the swap-meet to only 25 sellers, so if you want to sell, you must CALL the store and reserve your space BEFORE Monday August 1, 2016. Of course, if the 25 spaces are reserved before the date, we can continue to accept reservations as an ALTRERNATE for those who want to be notified of a cancellation up through the 1st of August. No reservation requests will be taken AFTER August 1, 2016. There is no fee to attend, or buy at this swap-meet, so if you aren't selling, you should stop by to cash in on that ever-so-elusive bargain you've been searching for.

Also, make it a point to stop in and check out some of the deals being offered in the store as well. We hope to see you on Saturday, August 6, 2016 for the SUMMER HAM-BOREE & SWAP-MEET 2016 at Ham Radio Outlet, San Diego!

Your HRO San Diego Staff



2016 San Diego Hamfest

October 1st 2016

Old radio trade show, speakers, vendors

See sdhamfest.org for more details

Swap Meet Listings

The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon has a Swap Meet listing page on our website and here in Counterpoise, Have something you want to buy, sell, or trade list it with us. See <http://wa6bgs.us/swapmeetlegal.html> for more listings and posting guidelines. This is a free service to our members.

Youth Net

A new net, Youth Ham net begins on Thursday night, July 21, 2016. This net is aimed toward young hams. The net will be on every Thursday (except Club Meeting Thursdays) from 7-8 PM on the El Cajon 2 meter repeater. If you are a young ham, or a new ham this net is for you.

Next Month's Meeting DMM to Field Strength Meter Conversion

Next month we convert one of those cheap Harbor Freight DMMs into a handy Field Strength meter, Bring your meter and get some hands on experience homebrewing something

A New Resource

Recently Mark KB6PJU and Terry K6TRY had some tree trimming done by one of the local tree trimming services. As often happens the question regarding all that wire and stuff in the air came up. It was explained they are amateur radio operators. Another question came up in their conversation, that being can their bucket truck be used for hanging wire antennas and the like? Well it turns out this company will for a reasonable cost lend the services of their bucket truck for the purpose of minor antenna work. Mark and Terry thought it would be good to pass this information along. And there you have it another very useful service made available to us amateur radio operators. There is a cost involved, however I am told it is reasonable.



Membership Badges & Pins

All members of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon who might wish to obtain a membership badge can contact Dell Awards and place an order with them. They are our current preferred source for these badges, and have our logo and design on file and ready to create a custom badge for members. Current price is \$7.50 per badge and they have indicated that there is normally a 3 business day turnaround time. These are quality badges made by a long established company, so place yours on order soon. They can be reached at the below address and phone number, and be sure to mention you saw this blurb in the Counterpoise newsletter too.

Dell Awards
7949 Broadway
Lemon Grove, CA 91945
(619) 469-2100
Hours: Mon-Fri 9:30am-5:30pm
Sat 10am-1pm
Sun - Closed

Club Pins Now Available:

They have arrived! A limited number of club pins are now here and can be obtained from our Treasurer at most club functions. These are 1" diameter pins with a rubber clutch pin on rear. You can now show the world your support of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon, and for the small cost of \$3.00 each too. Get them while they are available.

The San Diego Morse Code Practice Group

Mark KB6PJU has been conducting a code practice group on the WA6BGS VHF repeater. The code practice Group meets at 7:00 PM Pacific time on Fridays. If you want to learn Mores Code, hone your skills, and improve your speed the San Diego Morse Code Practice Group is for you.

You can discuss the San Diego Morse Code Practice Group here;

<http://www.arrl.org/forum/topics/view/1536>

And here;

<https://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/new-2-meter-repeater-cw-teaching-method-developed.492738/>

Our Tower Trailer Needs A New Home

The current storage location for the club's antenna tower will not be available very soon. The club is looking for a volunteer willing to store the tower trailer. The new location must be secure, and 24 hour access is highly desired. If anyone wants to volunteer to store the trailer, or, has any suggestions on where to store the antenna trailer, please contact any officer or board member.



     	New Battery Supply & Battery Recycling for SD New Marine Battery-Heavy Equipment Battery-Tuck/Auto 619Battery.com Shop 619-448-5323 Mobile 619-315-5604 Call/Text 1985 Friendship Dr B El Cajon 92020 Jeff Schwen
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The **AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF EL CAJON**^{Inc.}
WA6BGS

Post Office Box Fifty, El Cajon California 92022

Founded 1960 ~ Incorporated 1976

Please fill out this form and then see options at bottom for submitting to the club

Date of application: ___ / ___ / ___

Amount Paid: \$ _____ Cash Check Check # _____

Membership Type: Individual (\$20/year) Family* (\$35/year)

Membership Status: New Renewal Returning Member

Call Sign First Name _____ Last Name _____

If a previous member, what was your WAMO number?

ARRL Member: Yes No

License Class: Technician General Extra Other

Email Address (required) _____

Phone Number (optional) _____

**Use another sheet of paper to add Family members and please include the following information:*

First Name, Last Name, Call Sign (if any), License Class, Wamo Number (if any), & Email Address.

Submitting this form:

To submit this form, you can mail it to:

**Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon
P.O. Box 50
El Cajon, CA 92022**

-OR-

Bring it to the next club meeting on the second Thursday of each month. You can find the date and location by getting online at www.wa6bgs.us which is the club website. Check it out for the most current information regarding the club.

Cash Payments - Get a receipt from the Club Treasurer. Please make all checks payable to AMATEUR RADIO CLUB of EL CAJON, Incorporated. Receipts for payments by check will be sent by email or regular mail by the Club Treasurer.

Members with an FCC Call Sign are full members with voting privileges. Members without an FCC Call Sign are Associate members without voting privileges.

YOUR DUES ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE: Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon, Inc. Is a 501 C 7 Corporation. Donations are NOT tax deductible.

Email address and phone number are to allow club officers to contact members regarding club business and information of interest.